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A/C.2/46/L.80
26 November 1991

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Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 79

PROTECTION OF GLOBAL CLIMATE FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS OF MANKIND

China and Ghana*: draft resolution

Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/53 of 6 December 1988 and 44/207 of 22 December 1989, in which it recognized climate change as a common concern of mankind, and resolution 45/212 of 21 December 1990, by which it established a single intergovernmental negotiating process for the preparation of a framework convention on climate change,

Reiterating the objective that an effective framework convention, containing appropriate commitments, and any related legal instruments as might be agreed upon should be completed prior to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and opened for signature during that Conference in June 1992,

Taking note of the relevant decisions taken in 1991 by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, the Eleventh World Meteorological Congress, the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and other intergovernmental bodies,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77.

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General concerning the progress of the negotiations for a framework convention on climate change, 1/

1. Takes note with appreciation of the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change at its first, second and third sessions; 2/

2. Urges the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to expedite and successfully complete the negotiations as soon as possible, and to adopt the framework convention in time for it to be opened for signature during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

3. Decides that the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee should hold a fifth session at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 18 to 28 February 1992, with the possibility of the Committee holding a short resumed session in New York in April 1992;

4. Also takes note with appreciation of the contributions made to the special voluntary fund, established in accordance with paragraph 10 of its resolution 45/212 to ensure that developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, as well as small island developing countries, are able to participate fully and effectively in the negotiating process, and invites existing and new contributors to provide the additional and timely funding needed to ensure adequate support for the participation of developing countries in the negotiating process in 1992;

5. Further takes note with appreciation of the initial contributions made to the trust fund for the negotiating process, established in accordance with paragraph 20 of its resolution 45/212, and invites present and new contributors to provide additional funding in 1992;

6. Takes note of the arrangements made by the Secretary-General, as well as the welcome support provided by the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Meteorological Organization and by Governments, for the operation of the ad hoc secretariat of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee during 1991;

7. Reiterates its request to the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, on behalf of the Committee, to submit a report to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992 on the outcome of the negotiations, as well as on possible future steps in the field of climate change;

1/ A/46/602.

2/ See A/AC.237/6, A/AC.237/9 and A/AC.237/12.

8. Requests the Secretary-General, in the light of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development regarding the framework convention on climate change, to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution and on possible future requirements in relation to climate change;

9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session an item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind".

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26 November 1991

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SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 77 (f)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT

Mauritania: draft resolution

Combating desertification and drought

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/172 of 19 December 1977, by which it approved the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, 1/ and all its subsequent resolutions on the subject,

Recalling also its resolutions of 22 December 1989 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and 45/212 of 21 December 1990 on the protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind,

Welcoming the decision of the Chairman of Working Group I of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to visit the field for an evaluation of the effect of, and activities to combat, desertification,

1. Reaffirms its resolutions 44/172 A and B of 19 December 1989, concerning the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, in which the Assembly invited the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, through its Preparatory Committee, to accord high priority to desertification control;

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Desertification, Nairobi, 29 August-9 September 1977 (A/CONF.74/36), chap. I.

2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in 1989 and 1990, including its implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region, 2/ and requests the Secretary-General to forward that report, as well as the report requested by the Assembly in paragraph 7 of its resolution 44/172 A, 3/ to the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at its fourth session;

3. Endorses decisions 16/22 A to E of 31 May 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, 4/ and decision 91/41 of 25 June 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme; 5/

4. Also endorses decision 3/16 of 4 September 1991 of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference, 6/ in which the Committee requested the Secretary-General of the Conference to submit to the Committee at its fourth session a report on the financial, technical and institutional needs to implement effectively and efficiently the decisions of the Conference regarding desertification control;

5. Welcomes the priority that will be given to the consideration of desertification by the Preparatory Committee at its fourth session;

6. Congratulates the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office for the continued and substantial technical and financial assistance it has given to the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region at the national and regional level, in their preparations for the Conference, and encourages the Office to continue and intensify its assistance in that area until the holding of the Conference and its follow-up;

7. Invites the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, within the framework of United Nations Development Programme round tables and/or the World Bank consultative group, to assist the Governments of the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region in organizing sectoral/thematic round tables in order to mobilize adquate resources for the protection and sound management of natural resources to arrest and reverse the process of desertification;

2/ A/46/380-E/1991/142.

3/ A/46/157-E/1991/55.

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/46/25), annex.

5/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 13 (E/1991/34), annex I.

6/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 48 (A/46/48), vol. II, annex I.

8. Requests the Secretary-General, in the light of the decisions of the Conference regarding desertification, to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, on an exceptional basis, on any requirements to implement those decisions.

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SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 89

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMITMENTS AND POLICIES AGREED UPON IN THE DECLARATION ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION, IN PARTICULAR THE REVITALIZATION OF ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ioan Barac (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.15

Regional economic integration among developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, the annex to which contains the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries,

Recalling also its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990, proclaiming the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,

Bearing in mind that regional economic integration is important in expanding trade and investments, particularly in developing countries, and regional economic integration everywhere has the potential to strengthen global economic growth, especially if accompanied by openness to the outside world,

Recalling its resolution 45/203 of 21 December 1990 on the Trade and Development Board, in which it invited the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Trade and Development Board, as appropriate, to

continue to follow closely and analyse developments that have a major impact on international trade relations, including economic integration and policy reform in the world economy, technological change and the growing linkage between flows of investment and trade,

Bearing in mind decision 91/10 of 25 June 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme 1/, in which it was decided that regional integration between developing countries should be included among the specific areas of analysis of regional programmes,

Bearing in mind also the relevant provisions of decision 90/34 of 23 June 1990 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, 2/

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/76 of 26 July 1991, which encourages interregional cooperation in order to facilitate international trade,

Reaffirming that an open multilateral trading system is essential for the promotion of economic growth and development,

Convinced of the link between regional economic integration among developing countries and the promotion of growth and development and of the need to promote more economic cooperation between the members of the international community,

Taking note of the economic policy measures adopted by the developing countries to facilitate their efficient and competitive participation in the contemporary world economy,

Recalling that regional initiatives have been agreed upon to set the process of economic integration in motion within specific time-frames and with clearly defined objectives,

Aware of the need to coordinate measures at the international level to guarantee the effective and efficient promotion of actions that encourage regional economic integration and, thus, economic integration among developing countries,

Recognizing the need to support, inter alia, the preparation of studies and implementation of measures to facilitate trade, as well as harmonization of the macroeconomic policies and legal systems of the countries concerned,

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1/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 13 (E/1991/34).

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 9 (E/1990/29).

and to explore the technological aspects of such industrial reconversion processes as might be economically necessary during the process of integration,

1. Points to the substantive importance of integration among developing countries, both for the international community in general and, in particular, for the strengthening of growth and socio-economic development in the developing countries;

2. Decides that in the context of the next revision of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, to be held in 1992, activities promoting regional economic integration among developing countries should be given prominent attention, and recommends that these activities be included as separate subprogrammes under the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the regional commissions, where appropriate, in the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995, taking into account the need for coordination and the avoidance of duplication;

3. Requests the regional commissions to contribute, together with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to the identification, preparation and implementation of specific projects to facilitate economic integration, and to submit them to bilateral donors, regional development banks and financial institutions for their consideration;

4. Invites all States and regional economic integration organizations to support these initiatives;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Phase II of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific

Programme budget implications of draft decision A/C.2/46/L.65

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft decision

1. By draft decision A/C.2/46/L.65, the General Assembly would:

(a) Endorse Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/75 of 26 July 1991, entitled "Phase II of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994";

(b) Decide, in accordance with paragraph 2 of that resolution, to change the period of the second quinquennium of the Decade to 1992-1996 to coincide with the period of the medium-term plan, namely 1992-1997, so that adequate preparations for a regional action programme may be made, in accordance with resolution 47/10 of 10 April 1991 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

2. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1991/75, inter alia:

(a) Endorsed resolution 47/10 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on phase II of the Transport and Communciations Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994, with a view to:

(i) Raising the transport and communications infrastructural facilities and services of developing member and associate member Governments to a level commensurate with their development objectives and priorities, giving particular attention to the special needs of the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries of the region;

(ii) Encouraging the active participation of existing subregional groupings of the region in formulating and implementing the activities for the Decade within their respective subregions in coordination with the regional secretariat;

(iii) Associating national institutions concerned with transport and communications in the implementation of the activities for the Decade;

(iv) Promoting the active involvement of commercial sectors in the implementation of the activities for the Decade;

(b) Recommended that the General Assembly change the period of the second quinquennium of the Decade to 1992-1996 to coincide with the period of the medium-term plan, namely 1992-1997, so that adequate preparations for a regional action programme may be made, in accordance with resolution 47/10 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific;

(c) Requested the Executive Secretaries of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia to promote intergovernmental and inter-agency coordination and cooperation at the regional and subregional levels in the formulation and implementation of a regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade;

(d) Requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its regular session of 1992 and every two years thereafter until the end of the Decade a report on the implementation of the resolution.

B. Relationship of the proposed requests to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 and proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993

3. The activities related to the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific are included in programme 31 (Regional cooperation for development in Asia and the Pacific), subprogramme 14 (Transport and communications), and programme 34 (Regional cooperation for development in Western Asia), subprogramme 15 (Transport and communications) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, 1/ as well as in sections 24 and 27 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. 2/

C. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

4. Should decision A/C.2/46/L.65 be adopted, a regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade would be prepared, taking due account of the shortcomings identified during the first quinquennium. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) would coordinate their activities and undertake joint projects. A working group comprising representatives of organizations of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and subregional groupings concerned with the development of transport and communications in the two regions would be convened in 1992 by ESCAP in collaboration with ESCWA. The proposed regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade would be reviewed at a joint meeting of the working group and senior government officials responsible for transport and communications development in the two regions. A meeting of ministers of the member countries responsible for transport and communications would subsequently be convened to review, adopt and launch the regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade. A report on implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/75 would be prepared for the regular session of 1992 of the Council and a report on the regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade would be prepared for consideration by both Commissions at their annual sessions.

D. Modifications required in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993

5. Some of the activities in relation to the Decade have already been programmed in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. However, the preparation of the regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade and joint activities by ESCAP and ESCWA in the context of the Decade would have to be added to the work programme contained in subprogramme 14 (Transport and communications) of section 24 of the proposed programme budget as follows:

1. Parliamentary services

At the end of the entry add

Substantive services: a working group, comprising representatives of organizations of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and subregional groupings concerned with the development of transport and communications in Asia and the Pacific and in Western Asia; a joint meeting of the working group and government officials responsible for transport and communications development to prepare and review the regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade; a meeting of ministers for transport and communications to review, adopt and launch the regional action programme.

4. Coordination, harmonization and liaison

After 1985-1994 add and joint projects with ESCWA within the framework of the Decade.

E. Additional requirements at full cost

6. At the time of the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, provision had been made for the ongoing work related to the Decade. Activities to be undertaken in the context of a regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade, particularly those to be implemented jointly with ESCWA, would, however, require additional resources. In that connection, it is proposed that a temporary P-3 post be established, effective January 1992, under subprogramme 14 of section 24 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. The incumbent of the post would be responsible for preparation of the working group, the joint meeting of the working group and government officials and the ministerial meeting referred to in paragraph 4 above, as well as for data collection, research and analysis required for the formulation and implementation of the regional action programme and for coordination of the joint activities to be implemented with ESCWA. The related salary and common staff costs would amount to $73,500. In addition, consultant services in the amount of $15,000 would be required to assist in formulating the regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade. Moreover, coordination of the activities between ESCAP and ESCWA would call for additional resources for travel in the amount of $12,000.

F. Potential for absorption

7. It is estimated that additional requirements for consultants and travel of staff totalling $27,000 could be absorbed from within the overall provision for consultants and travel under section 24 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. As regards the estimated costs for the temporary P-3 post ($73,500), those costs cannot be absorbed and thus represent additional requirements for the forthcoming biennium under section 24, to be treated in the context of the guidelines established for the use of the contingency fund.

H. Contingency fund

8. It will be recalled that, under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the proposed programme budget. In addition, each statement of programme budget implications and each proposal for revised estimates should contain alternatives to the financing of the proposed new activities from the contingency fund.

9. In the event that the additional requirements of $73,500 arising from the additional activities mentioned above cannot be met from the contingency fund, it is proposed that the following low-priority activities, equivalent to 24 work-months of Professional staff under subprogramme 14 of section 24, be postponed to the biennium 1994-1995:

2. Published materials

Recurrent publication: Inland Water Transport Bulletin (annual).
Non-recurrent publications: directory of railway training institutions, guide to railway research and an institutional guide to roads and road transport.

I. Summary

10. Should the General Assembly adopt draft decision A/C.2/46/L.65 the activities detailed in paragraph 5 above would have to be added to the work programme under subprogramme 14 of section 24 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

11. An additional appropriation in the amount of $73,500 would be required under section 24 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, subject to the guidelines of the contingency fund. In addition, an amount of $15,400 for staff assessment would be required under section 36 (Staff assessment), to be offset by an increase in the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. II.

2/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. II.

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SECOND COMMITTEE
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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Bozorgmehr Ziaran (Islamic Republic of Iran), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.27

Special assistance to Namibia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 45/198 of 21 December 1990 on the inclusion of Namibia in the list of least developed countries, by which it decided to give Namibia special consideration in support of its economic and social development,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 643 (1989) of 31 October 1989, by which the Council urgently appealed to Member States, United Nations agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to extend, in coordination with the Secretary-General, generous financial, material and technical support to the Namibian people, both during the transitional period and after independence,

Taking into account the recommendation of the Committee for Development Planning that the international community adopt special measures in favour of Namibia for a period of years in order to assist it in mobilizing its considerable economic potential as a newly independent nation, 1/

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 11 (E/1991/32), para. 263.

Welcoming decision 91/14 of 25 June 1991, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, in which the Governing Council decided to extend special assistance to Namibia during the fifth programming cycle equivalent to that given to a least developed country, 2/

Further welcoming Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/50 of 26 July 1991, on special assistance to Namibia,

Considering the urgent need of Namibia for assistance in its efforts to reconstruct and strengthen its fledgling economic and social structures,

1. Endorses the decision of the Economic and Social Council in its resolution E/1991/50 to invite States, organizations of the United Nations system and other donor agencies to grant Namibia for a number of years assistance of a scope comparable to that given to a least developed country;

2. Requests States, organizations of the United Nations system and other donor agencies to give special consideration to extending to Namibia, during the period immediately after independence, special assistance of a scope comparable to that given to a least developed country;

3. Invites the Committee for Development Planning to review the situation of Namibia, taking into account its need for special assistance, and to make recommendations thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.

2/ Ibid., Supplement No. 13 (E/1991/34).

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Agenda item 77 (a)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.57

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 9 to 13 of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.57, the General Assembly would:

(a) Request the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to carry out specific studies in the following areas and to report on the results of those studies to the Trade and Development Board and to the General Assembly:

(i) Liberalization of transit services and streamlining of transit documentation and procedures;

(ii) Implications of high-transit costs on the overall development of the land-locked developing countries;

(iii) Identification of specific areas in the context of subregional and regional cooperation for the promotion and integration of transit infrastructure and services and harmonization of transit transport policies and legislation;

(iv) Identification of specific areas for the expansion of the trade sector of land-locked developing countries, including the assessment of regional trade possibilities;

(v) Improvement of the security of goods in transit;

(vi) Transit facilities accorded to land-locked developing countries in different regions;

(vii) Improvement of current transit insurance regimes;

(viii) Application of new information technology to improve transit services;

(ix) Identification of specific training needs to improve the managerial capacities and the skills of personnel involved in transit operations to ensure effective utilization of transit transport facilities;

(x) Development and expansion of all other alternatives and/or complements to ground transportation in order to improve the access of land-locked countries to foreign markets;

(b) Request the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and, where relevant, the executive heads of the subregional economic groupings, to convene subregional symposia/workshops of experts of land-locked and transit developing countries in 1992-1993 on the basis of the studies mentioned above and other relevant studies;

(c) Request the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to convene a meeting of high-level governmental experts of developing land-locked and transit countries and donor countries and financial and development institutions in 1993 to:

(i) Discuss the particular problems of land-locked developing countries in general, including those that are peculiar to individual countries;

(ii) Consider support measures to foster better cooperative arrangements between transit and land-locked developing countries;

(iii) Provide an opportunity to exchange views on how effectively to tailor assistance programmes to meet the specific requirements of land-locked developing countries, including those programmes and projects that enhance cooperative arrangements between land-locked and transit developing countries;

(iv) Identify the problems faced in implementing donor assistance programmes in land-locked developing countries;

(v) Propose a concrete programme of action for the land-locked and transit developing countries, to be forwarded to the Trade and Development Board and the General Assembly, at its forty-eighth session, for appropriate action;

(d) Decide to strengthen the branch of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development dealing with land-locked and island developing countries in order to ensure the effective implementation of the activities called for by the resolution and other measures in support of land-locked developing countries;

(e) Welcome the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on progress in the implementation of specific action related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries, submitted pursuant to resolution 44/214, and request him to prepare another report, taking into account the provisions of the present resolution, the results of the studies to be undertaken in accordance with operative paragraph 9 of the resolution, and the outcome of the meeting of governmental experts of developing land-locked and transit countries and donor countries and financial and development institutions, for submission to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.

B. Relationship of the proposed requests to the medium-term plan and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993

2. The activities referred to in the draft resolution are related to major programme IV, (International Economic Cooperation for Development), programme 15, (Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, and special programmes), subprogramme 2 (Land-locked and island developing countries, and special programmes) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 1/. They are also related to section 15 (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development), programme 15 (Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, and special programmes), subprogramme 2 (Land-locked and island developing countries, and special programmes) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. 2/

C. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

3. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would include in the programme of work for 1992-1993 the studies in 10 specific areas relating to land-locked developing countries listed in operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution. Subregional symposia/workshops of experts of land-locked and transit developing countries (two in the ECA region, one in the ESCAP region) on the basis of the above and other relevant studies would be convened. In addition, a meeting of high-level governmental experts of developing land-locked and transit countries and donor countries and financial institutions would be convened in 1993, resulting in proposals for a programme of action for consideration by the Trade and Development Board and the General Assembly. A report containing the results of the studies in the specific areas, and the outcome of the meeting of governmental experts and representatives of donor countries and

financial and development institutions, would be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.

D. Modifications required in the proposed programme budget for 1992-1993

4. The following activities would be added to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 under section 15 (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development), programme 15 (Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, and special programmes), subprogramme 2 (Land-locked and island developing countries, and special programmes):

(a) Parliamentary services

Parliamentary documentation: report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, through the Trade and Development Board, on the results of studies on: liberalization of transit services and streamlining of documentation and procedures; implications of high-transit costs; identification of specific areas for the promotion and integration of transit infrastructure and services; expansion of the trade sector of land-locked developing countries; security of goods in transit; transit facilities; transit insurance regimes; application of new information technology; training needs to improve the managerial capacities and the skills of personnel involved in transit operations; and development of alternatives and/or complements to ground transportation to improve the access of land-locked countries to foreign markets; and on the outcome of the meeting of high-level governmental experts.

(b) Ad hoc expert group

Meeting of high-level governmental experts on the problems of land-locked developing countries in order to, inter alia, formulate proposals for a concrete programme of action for land-locked and transit developing countries.

(c) Operational activities

Subregional symposia/workshops based on studies in specific areas of activity of land-locked and transit developing countries (two in the ECA region and one in the ESCAP region).

E. Additional requirements at full cost

5. The full cost of the new activities indicated in paragraph 3 above would be as follows:

Conference-servicing costs

High-level governmental experts meeting at Geneva for one week in 1993

	$
Pre-session documentation	
(100 pages, four documents: A,C,E,F,R,S)	95 400
Meeting servicing	
(Interpretation, 10 meetings: A,C,E,F,R,S)	53 000
In-session documentation	
(24 pages, three documents: A,C,E,F,R,S)	23 500
Post-session documentation	
(25 pages, one document: A,C,E,F,R,S)	24 800
Total	196 700

Other costs

The preparation of the studies listed in paragraph 3 above would require 72 work-months of Professional Staff, 48 work-months of General Service staff and $50,000 or six work-months of consultancy services.

F. Potential for absorption

Conference-servicing costs

6. The estimated conference-servicing costs of convening a governmental group of experts at Geneva in 1993 totalling $196,700, are based on the theoretical assumption that no part of the conference-servicing requirements would be met from within the permanent conference-servicing capacity under section 32 (Conference services) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 and that additional resources would be required for temporary assistance for meetings. The extent to which the Organization's permanent capacity needs to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources can only be determined in the light of the final calendar of conferences for 1992-1993, and was estimated on the basis of previous experience to accommodate not only meetings that were programmed, but also additional meetings. In other words, provision was made in the proposed programme budget not only for meetings known at the time of budget preparation, but also for meetings that would be authorized subsequently. On that basis, it is estimated that no additional resources would be required under section 32 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, should the draft resolution be adopted.

Other costs

7. As a result of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, and related to the new tasks devolving on UNCTAD from the Plan of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, additional resources were provided to UNCTAD in 1991. As a number of land-locked and transit countries also fall within the scope of the special programme on least developed countries, efforts will be made to adjust the work programme in these related areas, thereby absorbing the staff costs related to the additional studies requested in operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution. However, it is anticipated that the additional requirements in respect of the consultancy services of $50,000 would represent additional requirements under section 15 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, to be treated in the context of the guidelines for the use of the contingency fund.

G. Contingency fund

8. Under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the proposed programme budget. In addition, each statement of programme budget implications and each proposal for revised estimates should contain alternatives to the financing of the proposed new activities from the contingency fund.

9. In the event that the additional $50,000 could not be financed from the contingency fund, it is proposed that the following low-priority activities under section 15 be postponed to the biennium 1994-1995:

Programme 14. Development finance, resource flows and external debt

Subprogramme 4. Insurance

Activities:

Parliamentary services

Parliamentary documentation: report for the Committee on Invisibles and Financing related to Trade: on ways to improve the investment performance of life insurers in developing countries (six work-months of Professional staff).

H. Summary

10. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.57, the proposed programme of work under section 15 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 would be increased by the new activities listed in paragraph 4 above.

11. An additional appropriation of $50,000 would be required under section 15 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, subject to the guidelines for the operation and use of the contingency fund.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

2/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

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Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa
(1991-2000)

Programme budget implications of the draft decision contained in document A/C.2/46/L.64

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft decision

1. Under the terms of draft decision A/C.2/46/L.64, the General Assembly would:

(a) Endorse Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/81 of 26 July 1991 on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000);

(b) Agree to provide adequate resources within the context of the biennium 1992-1993 for the full implementation of that resolution.

2. By its resolution 1991/81, the Economic and Social Council, inter alia,

(a) Requested the Conference of African Ministers of Industry to submit to the General Assembly, at its forty-sixth session, the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, which is currently being finalized, together with the recommendations concerning the practical modalities of its implementation and monitoring and including modalities for the mobilization of funds needed to finance the programme at the national, subregional, regional and international levels;

(b) Recommended that the General Assembly provide the Economic Commission for Africa with adequate resources to enable it to assist African countries and organizations effectively in the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

(c) Requested the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, to take follow-up action to promote national, subregional and regional activities in support of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and submit a report on the implementation of that resolution to the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa at its eighteenth meeting.

B. Description of activities proposed in the draft decision and their estimated requirements at full cost

3. The above proposals fall under major programme VI (Regional cooperation for economic and social development), programme 30 (Regional cooperation for development in Africa), subprogramme 19 (Transport and communication), of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997. 1/ This subprogramme was given high priority.

4. The programme of activities for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa was adopted in June 1991 at the meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of the Whole on Industrialization in Africa and the Tenth Meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry. During the biennium 1992-1993, the activities will be oriented towards strengthening the technological and entrepreneurial capabilities of African countries at the national, subregional and regional levels. Particular attention will be paid to small-scale, cottage and rural industries. Efforts will be made to strengthen subregional and regional institutions for industrial development in the fields of technology, standardization, production and management.

5. The particulars of the programme were available at the time of the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 and have been utilized for the development of subprogramme 11 (Industrial development in Africa) of section 23 (Economic Commission for Africa). 2/ The resources proposed for the biennium in that subprogramme amount to $9,703,200, including both regular budget and extrabudgetary components. Moreover, the resources programmed for ECA under section 12 (Regular programme of technical cooperation) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 would be utilized for the promotion of cooperation between technological development institutions, small industry associations, chambers of commerce and industry and financial development institutions in the region.

6. In addition to the activities already programmed in the proposed programme budget, the following activities would be implemented:

(a) Four subregional meetings of three working days each on the identification of subregional and country priorities in the context of the Decade for country representatives would be held in various parts of the continent;

(b) A workshop for industrial and transport experts of three working days for the purpose of coordination of activities of the Second Industrial Development Decade and the Second Decade for Transport and Communications in Africa would be organized in 1992.

The programme would be guided and monitored by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, assisted by the Intergovernmental Committee of the Whole on Industrialization in Africa and the Committee on the Follow-up to the Industrial Development Decade Programme.

7. The estimated requirements at full cost for these additional activities would be:

		£
(a)	Subregional meetings:	
	Travel and DSA costs for two staff members attending each subregional meeting	31 700
	Consultants (specialized expertise in industry to prepare a consolidated assessment of priorities of the sector in each subregion (eight work months))	24 000
(b)	Servicing of meetings of the Committee on the Follow-up to the Industrial Development Decade Programme (temporary assistance for meetings)	45 000
(c)	General temporary assistance (equivalent to 12 work months at P-3 level) for the preparation of subregional meetings and workshop	79 700
	Total	180 400

/...

C. Modifications required in the proposed programme budget for 1992-1993 and estimated additional requirements

8. The following activities would be added to the 1992-1993 proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, under section 23:

Subprogramme 11. Industrial Development in Africa

Activities:

4. Operational activities:

(a) Advisory services: four subregional meetings on subregional and country priorities in the context of the implementation of the Second Industrial Development Decade;

(b) Group training: workshops on coordination of the activities under the Second Industrial Development Decade and the Second Decade for Transport and Communications in Africa.

9. The resources requested under section 23 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 would partly cover the additional costs involved: the temporary assistance for meetings ($45,000) could be absorbed from within the overall provision made for this purpose. The remaining costs ($135,400) represent the additional requirements under this section to be treated in the context of the guidelines for the use of the contingency fund.

D. Contingency fund

10. Under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 44/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the proposed programme budget. In addition, each statement of programme budget implications and each proposal for revised estimates should contain alternatives to the financing of the proposed new activities from the contingency fund.

11. In the event that the additional $135,400 could not be financed from the contingency fund, it is proposed that the following low-priority activities under section 23 be postponed to the biennium 1994-1995:

Subprogramme 10. Human settlements

Activities:

2. Published material: non-recurrent publication: formulation of efficient land use planning within the framework of the urban economy (five work months of Professional staff).

Subprogramme 12. Trade development and cooperation

Activities:

1. Published material: non-recurrent publication: trade facilitation in rural areas with emphasis on trade financing, credit facilities and services in rural areas.

Subprogramme 14. Monetary and financial policies and strategies

Activities:

2. Published material: non-recurrent publication: measures needed to provide effective trade financing mechanisms for the revitalization of Africa's trade and its contribution to economic growth (six work months of Professional staff and one work month of General Service staff).

The costs associated with the above low-priority activities would be utilized for the financing of the activities called for in the draft decision under consideration.

E. Summary

12. Should the General Assembly adopt draft decision A/C.2/46/L.64, the proposed programme of work under section 23 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 would be increased by the additional activities listed in paragraph 8 above.

13. An additional appropriation of $135,400 would be required under section 23 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, subject to guidelines for the operation and use of the contingency fund.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. II.

2/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. II.

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OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Algeria, China, Comoros, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia: draft resolution

United Nations Development Programme Human Development Report

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolutions 2688 (XXV) of 11 December 1970 on the capacity of the United Nations development system, 3405 (XXX) of 28 November 1975, on new dimensions in technical cooperation, 44/211 of 22 December 1989 on the comprehensive triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, S-18/3 of 1 May 1990 containing the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 45/199 of 21 December 1990 on the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,

Reaffirming also that neutrality is a fundamental characteristic of the operational activities for the development of the United Nations system,

Mindful of the commitment to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and the importance of economic and social development to human well-being,

Affirming that economic growth is a means to development, together with enlarging peoples' choices and opportunities fostering equity, fair income distribution and the development of human resources, and increasing productivity,

Expressing its appreciation for the work of the United Nations development system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, in

extending economic and technical assistance to the developing countries in carrying out their development activities in accordance with the mandate given to the organization,

Welcoming the 1990 United Nations Development Programme Human Development Report which emphasized the importance of peoples' participation in development and contained a broader concept of analysing development progress than the single criterion of per capita income,

Recalling United Nations Development Programme Governing Council decision 91/6 of 25 June 1991 on human development,

Recognizing that the incorporation of a human freedom index in the 1991 Human Development Report raises the question of mandate and causes serious divisions among member States,

1. Underlines that, while studies on various matters relating to human rights are an important undertaking for the United Nations system, such studies should be dealt with by the competent and relevant United Nations bodies, with proper mandates - namely, the Commission on Human Rights and Centre for Human Rights;

2. Emphasizes that attempts to utilize other United Nations bodies for their deliberations, measurements and conclusions on issues relating to human/political freedoms threaten to cause those bodies to deviate from their natures, purposes and principles;

3. Requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to focus on assisting Governments in carrying out their development programmes and projects and to suspend the incorporation of a human freedom index and issues relating to human/political freedoms in the work of programme-sponsored reports and studies, including the Human Development Report, in the absence of a clear and proper mandate given by the General Assembly.

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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION:
ENVIRONMENT

Ukraine and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:
draft resolution

International cooperation in the monitoring, assessment and anticipation of environmental threats and in assistance in cases of environmental emergency

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 44/224 of 22 December 1989 on international cooperation in the monitoring, assessment and anticipation of environmental threats and in assistance in cases of environmental emergency,

Reaffirming its resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Noting decision 16/37 of 31 May 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on early warning and forecasting of environmental emergencies and decision 16/9 of 31 May 1991 on a United Nations centre for urgent environmental assistance, in which the Governing Council, inter alia, decided to proceed with the establishment on an experimental basis at the beginning of 1992 for a period of eighteen months of a United Nations centre for urgent environmental assistance,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring, assessment and anticipation of environmental emergencies and relevant parts of the report of the Governing Council of its sixteenth session,

1. Stresses the need to strengthen international cooperation in the monitoring, assessment and anticipation of environmental threats and the rendering of assistance in cases of environmental emergency;

2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring, assessment and anticipation of environmental emergencies 1/ and invites the Secretary-General to convey it to the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

1/ UNEP/GC.16/17, annex.

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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION:
ENVIRONMENT

Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Cyprus, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, Malta, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago and Zambia: draft decision

Report of the Commonwealth Group of Experts on the Impact of Global Economic and Political Change on the Development Process

The General Assembly:

(a) Takes note of the executive summary of the report of the Commonwealth Group of Experts on the Impact of Global Economic and Political Change on the Development Process entitled "Change for the better: global change and economic development"; 1/

(b) Requests the Secretary-General to invite Member States and international organizations to submit to him their comments on the report;

(c) Also requests the Secretary-General to include those comments in a report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session.

1/ A/C.2/46/12, annex, and Add.1.

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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION:
ENVIRONMENT

Barbados, Egypt, Kenya and Uganda: draft decision

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

The General Assembly, having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its sixteenth session, 1/ held in Nairobi from 20 to 31 May 1991, and recalling Economic and Social Council decision 1991/313 of 26 July 1991, in which the Council, inter alia, took note of that report,

Takes note with appreciation of the report and of the decisions as adopted therein.

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/46/25).

91-46746 3980Z (E)